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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

:

Masaru ISHIHARA et al

: ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION

SERIAL NO: New Application

:

FILED: Herewith

:

FOR: MODIFIED BACTERIAL CELLULOSE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, after the Title, insert

--This application is a Continuation of U.S. Application Serial No. 08/900,124, filed on July 25, 1997, now allowed.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1-8 and add the following claims.

--9. A method of producing a bacterial cellulose, comprising:

culturing cellulose-producing bacteria which produce the bacterial cellulose extracellularly in a culture medium containing a cell division inhibitor.